Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An index imparting system which generates metadata ~~by using control signals of various kinds of devices used~~ based on signals in a broadcast station, the system comprising:

a control signal detecting section to (1) identify a device which generates a control signal based on recording or reproduction of data, the device is identified based ~~on (1) a type of each of the control signals, (2) an~~ a type and an identifier ~~for~~ that uniquely ~~specifying~~ identifies the device ~~each control signal~~, and ~~(3) a~~(2) identify a time of a detection ~~of one of the control signals~~of the control signal;

a memory storing a database comprising (i) the identifier ~~a plurality of identifiers of respective ones of a plurality of kinds of control signals~~ and (ii) attribute information which describes the data recorded or reproduced by the device, the attribute information corresponding to the identifier~~the plurality of identifiers~~;

a control signal attribute information managing section to manage the identifier and corresponding attribute information ~~of each~~ of the control ~~signals~~ signal and to identify the attribute information ~~of the one~~ of the control ~~signals~~ signal stored in the database depending ~~on an~~on the identifier ~~of the one of the control signals~~ obtained at the control signal detecting section; and

an index generating section to generate metadata following an acquisition of a type, the identifier, and the time ~~of the one~~ of the control ~~signals~~ signal at the control signal detecting section and the corresponding attribute information at the control signal attribute information managing section.

2. (Currently Amended) An index imparting system, comprising:

a control signal detecting section to (1) identify ~~detect a voice control signal of~~ a microphone, the microphone generates a voice control signal in response to recording ~~into which~~ a voice of a performer ~~is input~~, ~~to identify an identifier of~~ the microphone being identified by an identifier in the voice control signal that uniquely identifies the microphone, and to ~~obtain~~ (2) identify a time of a detection of the voice control signal;

a memory storing a database comprising (i) ~~a plurality of identifiers of respective ones of a plurality of kinds of control signals including one~~ the identifier of the microphone, and (ii) attribute information which describes the voice recorded by the microphone, the attribute information corresponding to the ~~plurality of identifiers including attribute information of the voice control signal~~identifier of the microphone;

a control signal attribute information managing section to manage the identifier and corresponding attribute information of ~~each of the control signals including~~ the voice control signal, and to identify the attribute information of the voice control signal stored in the database, the voice control signal associated with the performer, the attribute information of the voice control signal identified depending on the ~~one identifier of the~~ microphone identifier obtained at the control signal detecting section; and

an index generating section to generate metadata following an acquisition of the identifier and the time of the detection of the voice control signal at the control signal detecting section and the corresponding attribute information relevant to the performer at the control signal attribute information managing section.

3. (Currently Amended) An index imparting system, comprising:

a control signal detecting section to (1) identify ~~detect a control signal of~~ a VCR, the VCR generates a control signal in response to ~~with which~~ the VCR being selected by a switch~~is switched~~, ~~to identify an identifier thereof~~the VCR being identified by an identifier in the control signal that uniquely identifies the VCR, and to (2) ~~obtain~~ identify a time of a detection of the control signal;

a memory storing a database comprising (i) ~~a plurality of identifiers of respective ones of a plurality of kinds of control signals including one~~the identifier of the VCR, and (ii) attribute information which describes data being recorded or reproduced by the VCR, the attribute information corresponding to the ~~plurality of identifiers including attribute information of the control signal~~identifier of the VCR;

a control signal attribute information managing section to manage the identifier and corresponding attribute information of ~~each of the control signals, including~~ the control signal of the VCR, and to identify the attribute information of the control signal of the VCR stored in the database depending on the identifier of the VCR obtained at the control signal detecting section; and

an index generating section to generate metadata following an acquisition of the identifier and the time of the control signal of the VCR at the control signal detecting section and the corresponding attribute information relevant to the VCR at the control signal attribute information managing section.

4. (Currently Amended) An index imparting system, comprising:

a control signal detecting section to (1) identify ~~detect a control signal of a~~ telop ~~with which~~, the telop ~~is switched~~generates a control signal in response to the telop being selected by a switch, ~~to identify an identifier thereof~~,the telop being identified by an identifier in the control signal that uniquely identifies the telop, and to (2) identify~~obtain~~ a time of a detection of the control signal;

a memory storing a database comprising (i) ~~a plurality of identifiers of respective ones of a plurality of kinds of control signals including~~ the ~~control signal~~identifier of the telop, and (ii) attribute information which describes data being reproduced by the telop, the attribute information corresponding to ~~the plurality of identifiers including attribute information of~~ the identifier of the telop;

a control signal attribute information managing section to manage the identifier and corresponding attribute information ~~of each of the control signals, including~~ the control signal of the telop, and to identify the attribute information of the control signal of the telop stored in the database depending on the identifier of the telop obtained at

obtained at the control signal detecting section; and

an index generating section to generate metadata following an acquisition of the identifier and the time of the detection of the control signal of the telop at the control signal detecting section and the corresponding attribute information relevant to the telop at the control signal attribute information managing section.

5. (Currently Amended) The index imparting system according to claim 1, comprising a log analyzing section to generate log data wherein the time of the detection is sorted for ~~each identifier~~ a plurality of identifiers following the acquisition of a respective identifier and a respective time of detection from the control signal detecting section and output the log data to the index generating section.

6. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 5, wherein the log analyzing section comprises:

a log output section to generate the log data wherein the time of detection is sorted for each identifier by using the respective identifier and the respective time of detection of a control signal and to output the log data to a network or a removable medium; and

a log input section to input the log data via the network or the removable medium and to output the log data to the index generating section.

7. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 1, wherein the index imparting system detects an input control signal of any of a microphone, a VCR, or a telop, generates metadata following the acquisition of the type, the identifier, and the time of detection thereof, and imparts attribute information relevant to the control signal to the metadata.

8. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 1, wherein the control signal detecting section comprises:

a control signal type identifying section to detect an input control signal and to identify the type and the identifier thereof;

a control signal type managing section to manage the input control signal and the type and the identifier thereof;

a time obtaining section to obtain a time when the input control signal is detected; and

an index generation requesting section to send the identified type and identifier and the obtained time to the index generating section and to request to generate the metadata.

9. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 8, wherein the control signal detecting section is provided with a microphone signal voice pressure level judging section to measure a voice pressure level of an input voice signal and to judge an existence of a vocalization.

10. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 9, wherein the microphone signal voice pressure level judging section judges that a voice is generated only when a measured voice pressure level is at or above a prescribed value and sends a voice control signal to the control signal type identifying section.

11. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 9, wherein the microphone signal voice pressure level judging section judges a measured voice pressure level, judges that the voice is generated only when the voice pressure level is continuously maintained for a prescribed period of time and sends a voice control signal to the control signal type identifying section.

12. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 1, wherein the control signal attribute information managing section comprises:

the database which is further configured to store an identifier for uniquely specifying each of the control signals of various kinds of devices and the attribute information which is information relevant to each user of the various kinds of devices or each of the various kinds of devices;

an attribute information managing section to obtain the attribute information from the database in response to a request from the index generating section for the attribute information; and

an attribute information registering section to receive registration of the identifier and attribute information stored in the database.

13. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 12, wherein the control signal attribute information managing section comprises a database searching section connected to the database which stores detailed information of the attribute information and automatically imparts the detailed information obtained from the database to the metadata generated at the index generating section.

14. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 13, wherein the database stores the detailed information on at least any one of a person, news, or a script.

15. (Original) The index imparting system according to claim 12, wherein the attribute information registering section is connected online to a device to edit a VCR or a telop, and attribute information which is registered to the attribute information registering section is obtained by registering online information obtained or input by using the editing device.

16. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 12, wherein attribute information which is registered to the attribute information registering section is obtained by storing information obtained or input by using a device to edit a VCR or a telop in a removable medium as the attribute information, and registering the information by using the removable medium.

17. (Previously Presented) The index imparting system according to claim 1, wherein the control signal detecting section identifies a time on which detection of the control signals starts as a start time, identifies a time on which detection of the control signals are finished as an end time, and then adds a time zone information between the start time and the end time to the metadata as an attribute information of the control

of the control signals.